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6 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

7 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

8

9 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

10 Plaintiff,

11 v.

12 RENE MEZA, et al.,

13 Defendants.

CASE NO. 1:20-CR-00027-JLT-SKO

STIPULATION TO CONTINUE STATUS
CONFERENCE AND ORDER THEREON

Date: April 20, 2022

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Honorable Sheila K. Oberto

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15 This case is set for a status conference on April 20, 2022, which the parties stipulate to continue
16 to June 29, 2022, for the reasons set forth below.

17 **STIPULATION**

18 The parties request that time be excluded between April 20, 2022, and June 29, 2022 for the
19 following reasons: counsel for the defendants need additional time to review the discovery, consult with
20 their clients, and conduct further investigation. The case involves several undercover conversations, a
21 drug transaction, approximately 8000 pages of discovery, and digital discovery in the form of several
22 gigabytes. The proposed status conference date represents the earliest date that all counsel are available
23 thereafter, taking into account counsels' schedules, defense counsels' commitments to other clients, and
24 the need for preparation in the case and further investigation. Defense counsel also desire additional time
25 to discuss potential resolution with their respective clients and the government. In addition, the public
26 health concerns cited by General Order 611, 612, 617, 618, and 620 and presented by the evolving
27 COVID-19 pandemic, an ends-of-justice delay is particularly apt in this case because counsel or other
28 relevant individuals have been encouraged to telework and minimize personal contact to the greatest

1 extent possible. It will be difficult to avoid personal contact should the hearing proceed and it is difficult
2 for defense counsel to meet with their clients and review discovery.

3 The parties further believe that time should be excluded, in that failure to grant the requested
4 case schedule would unreasonably deny the defendants continuity of counsel, and unreasonably deny
5 both the defendants and the government the reasonable time necessary for effective preparation, taking
6 into account the parties' due diligence in prosecuting this case. 18 U.S.C. Section 3161(h)(7)(B)(iv).
7 Based on the above-stated findings, the ends of justice served by the schedule as requested outweigh the
8 interest of the public and the defendant in a trial within the original date prescribed by the Speedy Trial
9 Act. Therefore, the parties request that the Court exclude the time until the new trial date from
10 calculations under the Speedy Trial Act.

11 IT IS SO STIPULATED.

12 Dated: April 12, 2022

PHILLIP A. TALBERT
United States Attorney

14 By: /s/ KATHERINE E. SCHUH
15 KATHERINE E. SCHUH
16 Assistant United States Attorney

17 Dated: April 12, 2022

/s/ Peter Jones
18 Attorney for Defendant Rene Meza

19 Dated: April 12, 2022

/s/ Barbara O'Neill
20 Attorney for Defendant Basilio Chavez, Jr.

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25 **ORDER**

26 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the status conference in this case be continued from April 20,
27 2022, until June 29, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT the ends of justice served by the schedule set forth herein as
2 requested outweigh the interest of the public and the defendants in a trial within the original date
3 prescribed by the Speedy Trial Act for the reasons stated in the parties' stipulation. For the purpose of
4 computing time under the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161, et seq., within which trial must
5 commence, the time period of April 20, 2022 and June 29, 2022, inclusive, is deemed excludable
6 pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A), B(iv) because it results from a continuance granted by the Court
7 at the parties' request on the basis of the Court's finding that the ends of justice served by taking such
8 action outweigh the best interest of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial.

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10 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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14 DATED: 4/13/2022

Sheila K. Oberto
15 HONORABLE SHEILA K. OBERTO
United States Magistrate Judge